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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1X  
REPORT NO.

1. Hermann Matern, chairman of the SED for Berlin, recently told party colleagues that under present conditions a new election for the Berlin city assembly should not be expected when it is due this fall. The new constitution (drawn up by the existing assembly) was opposed by the SED, and it will certainly be rejected by the Soviet element in the Komendatura. At the same time, the Russians will not permit another election to be held under the present provisional constitution. As a result, Berlin will be virtually without a constitution so that the legal competence of all its agencies will be brought into question. After the expiration of the period for which the Magistrat was elected, Berlin will in practice have no valid administration.
2. Matern said that we must be prepared for hard struggles in Berlin, which may last longer than some people have supposed. The next winter may have an important effect upon these struggles -- "Sometimes flying is impossible in the winter". At the moment, however, no particular political action is required on the part of the SED beyond a careful watch on their opponents.
3. The press chief of the German postal service in the Soviet Zone, Richards, stated that the post offices in the eastern sector of Berlin will soon be taken over completely by the zonal service, and the Magistrat will be deprived of any authority over them. Since delivery to the West is possible only by way of the Russian Zone, the situation now prevailing with regard to parcel post could be extended tomorrow to letter mail. This action will be taken, and the Russians will then propose individual agreements with the postal administrations of the western sectors whereby they will deliver all mail to the Russians or to the Central Administration for Communications. Steps in this direction may be expected in the near future.

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Extracted by J.R.